

Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting

Date: January 13, 2000

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Lewis Cass Building, 6th Floor North Wing, Department of Community Health Conference Room

I. Approval of December Meeting Minutes

II. Geographic Framework Program

A. Michigan Information Center (MIC) Project Update

1. Phase 2 Status

Rob Surber, MIC, distributed a current status map. There are 51 counties (including Houghton County) that are through Phase 2 Complete and Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Attributes Reintegrated. Also the MIC has started Livingston County, therefore all counties are now either on their way or have been completed. The next counties to come from MIC and go to Michigan State Industries (MSI) are Midland County will be done either this week or next week. The MIC has developed a process to stitch the counties together starting in the Upper Peninsula. Have been waiting Phase 2 Complete for the Upper Peninsula counties to finish Upper Peninsula. This version in addition to being stitched together at the county lines, will contain 1999 Act 51 certified roads and will update Michigan State Industries (MSI) attribution of functional class. The next version will be a seamed 1999 version – it will not be piecemealed. The Upper Peninsula will be delivered to MDOT as a region. MDOT wants to utilize framework for applications at the region level.

2. Repositioning

Rob Surber, MIC, reported that a pilot project is scheduled to begin moving framework lines to consistent positional accuracy to improve the framework product. The MIC is planning to use digital ortho photos. Will do a pilot to look at all of the decision rules necessary to make this a complete product. The pilot project area will be Monroe County, which has an available set of countywide digital orthos and it has a mix of urban, rural, complicated shorelines, lakes, and interstates. There may be a problem defining what the shoreline is. The MIC wants to tackle the difficulty issues up front to know what problems they may run into. The goal is to make framework useable by the majority of the users. They feel they have a responsibility to make the standard base map as widely useful as possible. The MIC would like to reposition not only roads but also hydrography at the same time. They plan to have staff work on it, document their decisions, and then have others review it and make comments. The MIC wants to know how to move framework without losing their current work investment since they have a lot of editing issues to look at. When done, will be able to estimate the cost & timeframe to complete the rest of the state. The MIC plans to look at prioritization of different needs around the state. If you have a need for repositioning in your county, please contact Rob Surber at (517) 373-7910 and the MIC will try to accommodate your needs. The plan is to try to have consistency for counties and use the best documented positional accuracy for each county - if a county has a consistent set of Global Positioning System (GPS) line features that is better than available digital ortho, they would use the GPS line features. Each feature would be tagged to identify which data was used.

3. Digital Ortho Photo Processing

Everett Root, MIC, reported that Lorri Peltz-Lewis, Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI), is converting quarter quads into MrSID and creating a quad MrSID mosaic. She hopes complete this by the end of the month.

Rob Surber, MIC, stated that this represents 1,300 quarter quads. These will be made available to any interested agencies. Contact the MIC at (517) 373-7910.

4. Cabinet Meeting Presentation

Rob Surber, MIC, reported that the presentation has been rescheduled for February 14. The cabinet meeting presentation involves showing a demonstration of a new viewing tool that will be one of the highlights of the Executive Information System (EIS).

Eric Swanson, MIC, shared his presentation of the framework viewer for the governor's cabinet meeting. This is an evolving process of making data available and viewable. Has been talking to Bill Enslin, MSU, about future plans to have the viewing tool open to more functions and Bill is interested in doing this.

Alden Leatherman, MIC, asked if there is a possibility of having GIS analysis as far proximity.

Rob Surber, MIC, responded that this is MapObject Light.

Eric Swanson, MIC, stated that if they roll to MapObjects, will have more possibilities these things have been put together on the fly. Now they can be thinking about how to employ internally.

Steve Miller, MDEQ, commented that a specialized version of this would go to county health departments.

Eric Swanson, MIC, added that as more application data sets are built, this group would have to think about how to distribute the data. As data is mapped to framework it allows to groups to communicate and coordinate data.

Thomas Newell, Michigan State Police (MSP) asked about data responsibility, stating that people may access and use information for erroneous purposes.

Eric Swanson, MIC, responded that ownership remains within the departments and this issue would be presented to the department directors to address. Each department has governing rules about what data is available. MIC is not setting the distribution policies. Michigan Department of Community Health's (MDCH) birth/death cancer register is mapped but the data is confidential. MIC was given clearance to agencies' specific data sets for demonstration purposes.

Thomas Newell, MSP, asked if there is concern that departments may be over cautious.

Eric Swanson, MIC, responded that that is possible. There is no perfect path to follow. The goal is to be proactive and demonstrate the potential.

B. Base Map Scale Versions

Rob Surber, MIC, reported sent out on listserv and e-mail describing an issue of consistent map products for state. Looking to find a consistent set of county lines shoreline lines at varying scales. Then there will be a common set of products to share and work with. Rob asked for names interested people to sit on a committee. He would like representation from different departments to be sure that their shoreline needs are represented. This endeavor will involve a lot of work and they want to do it only once if possible. Contact Rob by e-mail (surberr@state.mi.us) if you are interested. There are short and long term goals. Short term is to provide small-scale shoreline and county line boundary products that the committee will agree will meet their needs. Long term is where framework comes in and how handle large-scale editing.

III. Michigan State Government Geographic Information Policy Council

A. National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)

Rob Surber, MIC, reported that the work continues on the clearinghouse survey development. The survey is both web and hard copy for ease of use. Imagin is ready to send out postcards within week to people on their mail list and MIC contacts. Please direct the postcard to the appropriate individual, be sure that it is filled out and returned as soon as possible.

IV. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

Gary Bilow, MDNR, reported they now have a price from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for the innovative partnership (IP) for ortho photos. Gary will get the final version to the MIC. The only question now is getting supplemental appropriations. These orthos will fill in the state with 1998-99 coverage. Gary also reported that the MDNR is comparing property mapping with REIS files they are working on refining the process. Seven counties are through the verification process. This is being done on state acreage ownership.

V. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Gil Chesbro, MDOT, reported that their office is looking for a student assistant. The position pays between \$10 - \$12 per hour. They are looking for intelligent people whom they will train in GIS. MDOT brought some of their CAD files for the Haggerty Road project into GIS and managed to fit it nicely on top of the framework base. This provides one more tool within the department that can be used.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, asked if it would be helpful for Oakland County framework completion.

Everett Root, MIC, stated that it would be helpful to get CAD files that have been built.

Rob Surber, MIC, commented that the CAD files could be reference to where they came from. This is an evolving map and data can be documented where they came from. The MIC had a problem trying to map Highway 127 because there was no flight or drawing documentation – did finally get the GPS data, but CAD files would have helped. Would be interested in discussing this with MDOT.

Gil Chesbro, MDOT, commented that MDOT has been translating the CAD files as they come in. Gil would see project as little fly specs in lower right-hand corner and found point of origin upper left-hand corner (a couple of thousand miles up to the northwest). Apparently this is standard CAD practice, but there is no consistency between projects.

Rob Surber, MIC, stated that the utility would need to be modified.

Gary Bilow, MDNR, commented that MDNR has converted the original Michigan Resource Information System (MIRIS) base, since it was all CAD files. In micro-stations there is a way to convert to the standard coordinate system. Gary offered to share this information.

Gil Chesbro, MDOT, added that MDOT has begun experimenting in a pilot program with Caliper products, Maptitude and TransCad, in Oracle spatial data. Caliper ruled that they will support Oracle spatial data. Bringing both on board to do small pilot project.

Joyce Newell, MDOT, reported that MDOT has been working on getting framework into their Transportation Management System (TMS). MDOT also has roadway data files, sufficiency file and needs file (soon be out-of-date) but are necessary to do the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) for submittal to the federal highway department for funding. The system is based on segmentation system – every section of the road is a record in the database. The HPMS is based on a sample of the data. Rural/urban, functional class, and Average Daily Traffic (ADT) groupings segment the sample. ADT in the ‘needs file’ is out-of-date and not helpful at this point, but it is historic data and maintains consistency. As the department will never collect ‘needs’ file data as collected in the past but must record what the segments were for HPMS. Any new data for ADT will be based on the framework referencing system. MDOT is now deciding how to register segments on the framework to use new data collected for use in HPMS. This is only for HPMS federal aid road. The ‘sufficiency’ file should not be a problem, since it was kept up-to-date. Joyce also stated that MDOT is falling behind on attribution of counties because of work on Act 51 maps.

VI. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)

Steve Miller, MDEQ, reported that MDEQ has received from MSU Center for Remote Sensing and GIS, Mr. Sids coverage of Landscan data for the entire state on 15 CDs. They can now have a compressed format and are exploring ways to serve it out. Ingham County Landscan has been georeferenced and is also available. On February 16-17, MDEQ will provide the county health departments that are involved in the Source Water Project a CD. Bill Enslin, MSU Center for Remote Sensing and GIS, will be providing training and the universities will provide support. MDEQ will then have statewide coverage on framework, as cleaned up and worked with by Bill Enslin, and will be training within their division on ArcExplorer. MDEQ will coordinate a meeting with the MIC regarding the 1-Stop Grant (consolidating permit applications). MDEQ has a contractor to examine 1-Stop Grant application, facility ID profiles, etc. The statewide ground water database has been moved to MDEQ. They have replaced with Well Key (which was Y2K incompatible) with Well Logic (an Internet based application). They will be loading data directly over the Internet into SQL database and serve out in various forms. The upload is scheduled for next weekend.

Rob Surber, MIC, asked if the United States Geographic Survey (USGS) National Hydrologic Data (NHD) work – Rob received an e-mail from Mark Coppersmith, USGS, stating that Michigan NHD work (except for 1 watershed) at USGS scale (1:100,000) is available on their site for download. USGS is now looking at moving that data to the 1:24,000 framework scale. Rob received a request from Mark Coppersmith for Detroit area data as USGS is interested in doing work on Rouge River as well as Macatawa.

VII. MIC Projects and Activities

A. Family Independence Agency (FIA) Initiative

Rob Surber, MIC, reported MIC has been working with Mike Scieszka, CIO for FIA. FIA will be using a new system using electronic cards for food stamps. Clients will require training on how to use the cards. FIA wants to do targeting of population groups. MIC would identify population groups and where they are around the state and facilities in those areas that may be leased for training. MIC made presentations to FIA management, who then began to see possibilities of how this information could be useful in other ways. There is a meeting in February to talk to management regarding an ongoing framework partnership. FIA is a large department with a lot of potential uses.

B. Statewide Land Database (SWLD) Facility ID Standards

Rob Surber, MIC, distributed a working draft that would be mailed out the beginning of next week for review. MIC wants to communicate with all state agencies that may have a facility id project. If we can link ID's, we can share information. This not only has a bearing on SWLDB but other business. MIC is attempting to keep in line with Federal Geographic Data Infrastructure (FGDC) standards. The SWLD Facility ID Standards will be sent to all departments who have expressed interest as well as members of the MI Geographic Users Group.

C. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Listserv

Rob Surber, MIC, reported that the Listserv is up for general GIS questions and discussions. Rob recommends this as a good place to listen in or contribute to the discussion. The MIC is working on the promotion of the 2000 Census. They have been mapping hard-to-count areas for legislators and community officials. MIC is entering into an agreement with Intermediate School Districts (ISD) Administrator Association to provide ISD maps to everybody who wants them. MIC will produce products for display and will be send to 23 participating school districts. The districts will send back changes in boundaries and school buildings. MIC will also add school buildings to the warehouse. The goal is to complete by June.

VIII. Regional Projects and Activities

Tammi Shepherd, SEMCOG, reported that a few months back SEMCOG worked on a boundary file for Wayne County. SEMCOG is waiting for a response from Wayne County, but put rest of boundary file on FTP site. They replaced some of the attributes; TIGER matched line work that was missing from block up to Minor Civil Division (MCD). SEMCOG gave some bridge files to Mike Guthrie, MDOT, to review for usefulness. Tammi also reported that the Address Standards Document for Livingston County is through SEMCOG's graphic department. Aaron Burke, Livingston County, will present it to his commissioners. So SEMCOG will know what will be available for the finished product. The document (identifies not only address standards, but also the process of establishing addresses for the community) is already 40 pages long. SEMCOG has also completed work on half of the Livingston County blocks. SEMCOG is also working on a pilot with Rochester Hills and Ferndale to add streets and address ranges from different counties' individual centerline files. SEMCOG wants to see what the possibilities are for receiving updates. SEMCOG is also looking at private companies for editing services. SEMCOG needs the data for their forecasting work. SEMCOG looked at framework for Rochester Hills and it looks pretty good.

XI. MSU Center for Remote Sensing and GIS Projects and Activities

Rob Surber, MIC, reported for Bill Enslin who is ill. MSU has completed building Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) lakes and rivers polygons for 61 counties. MIC delivered the remaining counties. There are a couple of issues in the SEMCOG area that they are working on. Wayne County just joined and is now a participating county. The Themer Program is working and it was successful to build Montcalm County. Many of the 'look up' tables are complete. Also produced an error code that identifies conflicts between the census feature classification code and the level. This might be useful when going back to work with updating. MIC will make a consistent pass through to cleanup and create a new feature classification code. Users will be able to see historical codes but they will be replaced with a new Framework Classification Code (FCC). The new specialized viewing tool for MDEQ's work will have framework, MIRIS, digital raster graphics (DRGs), watersheds, and possibly well logs. MSU will distribute county packages first and then will go up to the regions.

Gary Bilow, MDNR, asked if the Themer Program would be available for everybody.

Steve Miller, MDEQ, responded that MDEQ paid for the development of the program, but it is not a proprietary product.

Rob Surber, MIC, added that MIC feels they have a responsibility to make sure that state agencies have access to the other viewing tools.

X. County/Local Projects and Activities

Not present.

XI. Federal Projects and Activities

Not present.

XII. Other Issues

Not present.

XIII. Next Meeting Date

February 3, 2000, 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Lewis Cass Building, 1st Floor, North Wing, Department of Management & Budget Large Conference Room

** If any changes or corrections are to be made to these minutes, please contact the Michigan Information Center at (517) 373-7910.